

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE REQUESTED FILING OF RULE 1.53(B)
CONTINUATION PATENT APPLICATION BASED ON
THE FOLLOWING PENDING PRIOR PATENT APPLICATION:

In re Application of: Frederic P. Field et al.
Serial No.: 10/039,601
Filing Date: 10/19/2001
Title: SURGICAL SUTURING INSTRUMENT AND METHOD
OF USE
Group Art Unit: 3731
Examiner: Gary Jackson
Attorney's Docket No.: ONUX-17


Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

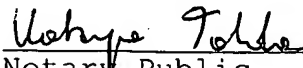
AFFIDAVIT VERIFYING APPLICATION

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
County of Middlesex

I, Mark J. Pandiscio, being duly registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and being duly sworn, depose and state that: I am attorney of record in the above-identified pending prior application Serial No. 10/039,601, filed 10/19/2001, and that the enclosed application is a true and complete copy of the prior application Serial No. 10/039,601 as filed, and that no amendments referred to in the oath or declaration filed to complete the prior patent application Serial No. 10/039,601 introduced new matter therein.

 12/16/03
Mark J. Pandiscio
Registration No. 30,883

Sworn to before me this 16th day of December, 2003.


Notary Public
My commission expires: 4/17/09